Wrong, George McKinnon July - Dec 1913

answered

BALLIOL COLLEGE,
OXFORD.

July 13 1913

My dear Falconer:-

Thanks for your letter. It is sad about Brown. Poor fellow. I know he is quite prepared for the worst, but life is sweet and one's heart aches for the wife. I am glad Massey and Miss McMurchie are appointed.

Herbert Fisher spoke to me about a young New Coll. man named Russell. He took a First in Mod. Hist. and is now reading for the bar in London. He is son of a Scotch landowner and there is a rather unhappy domestic history and Fisher thinks he was not to blame. The upshot was that the

BALLIOL COLLEGE,
OXFORD.

nothing but he said to me that some small pay if it was only £1 a week wd. be desirable. I may be able to get some literary work for him that will pay something. What I want from you is authority if you think well to ask him to come for a year. The Governors

need have no fear that I
will use him as a plea
for getting another man.
I have "played the game"
hitherto and I shall
continue to play it. We
need this help as Miss
Harvey leaves us, and,
of course, my being away
for a time makes some
difference. Work to me

to Blott & Reddan
17 Victoria St. S.W.
as soon as you get this. Faber's recommendation of Russell sh^{d}. count. I asked Sir Wm Osler if he w^{d}. advise our doing this and he said by all means take the man.

I am here getting in some work. I have a house at Liss for Aug and Sept. I am sorry for the big deficit but having had a big deficit all my life I am hardened to it.

Yours sincerely

George M. Wrong

father disinherited him and left his property on his death recently to his second son. Russell has some means. Fisher says he w'd like to get him out of England for a time, at any rate. ~~He~~ He is keen on History. I have seen him, he is entirely presentable and surprised me by his accurate knowledge. I told Fisher that I could get no money for him and he then said he wd advise him to come without a salary. What I suggest now is that we shd ask him to come for a year on the specific understanding *that there is no likelihood* of our having a post for him at Toronto. We can I hope get much good work out of him. I think he will come for

To H. C. Russell Esq

Balliol College Oxford 567
July 23 1913

My Dear Russell –

I have been away from Oxford and had intended writing to you while away but alas I found that I had failed to take your address with me. Kylie tells me that he saw you. He & I agree that we sh'd like to have you with us next winter at Toronto. I ought to make quite clear to you however my position. I have absolutely no power to appoint. At Toronto all appointments are made by the Governors a body of business men, on the recommendation of the President. I have written to the President but he is away from Toronto & probably he could not lay the matter before the Governors before the autumn. It may be therefore that no word will come from ~~the Governors~~ Toronto until the autumn. The Chairman of the Governors, Sir Edmund Walker is in London. I saw him & he said that probably the best thing for you w'd be to come unofficially at first at any rate. He said that the Board might not care to make an appointment for fear that at the end of a year such an appointment w'd ~~might~~ constitute a claim on them in the future for privileged treatment. He did not think it likely that we should have a permanent

opening for a long time in History, and thought
I ought to make it clear to you that there is
nothing to expect at Toronto at the end of your
year. Of course there are openings in other
places and your year at Toronto will be of
service to you in regard to them. I shall gladly
of course put in your way any literary work
that I can. The acceptance of such work will
of course depend on its merit

This, then is the situation. I have wished
to make the business aspects quite clear so
that there may be no mistake in the future
We shall welcome you at Toronto. We can
give you I think interesting work and we
shall naturally wish to help you in your
career. If you will come to us for a year
on these terms I shall be greatly pleased.
What I say is of course subject to the
approval of the authorities at Toronto. It may be that
through some fear of seeming to give a pledge
for the future they will not permit even
the temporary arrangement I have outlined but
I do not think it likely

My address will be Liss Place
Liss
Hants.
for the next two months

Yours sincerely (Signed) George M. Wrong.

TELEGRAPH: MINTLAW.

ADEN,
MINTLAW,
ABERDEENSHIRE.

July 28

Dear Professor Wrong,

In reply to your kind letter let me define my position

(1) I want to be under you at Toronto if you will have me.

(2) If I can earn any money so much the better.

(3) As matters stand at present I do not want to stay more than a year in Canada.

Hoping to hear from you ere long

Yours sincerely
W. C. Russell.

I am not seeking a permanent post from Toronto

(4) I would ~~rather~~ sooner, if possible, not leave Scotland till after September 20th, but can, of course, leave sooner if need be.

I think that fairly represents my position.

If you think I can be useful to you at Toronto I shall be delighted to come. My address after Wednesday is.

Ultonsyde
Nairn
Scotland.

What are the best lines for one-class ships? Allen and C.P.R.?

Toronto, August 1[illegible]th, 191[illegible].

Professor George M. Wrong,
c/o Messrs. Blake & Redden,
17 Victoria St.,
London, S.W., England.

My dear Wrong,-

I was hoping to see a number of the Governors but they are nearly all out of town and yesterday we could not get a meeting. I mentioned your proposal with regard to Mr. Russell to Mr. Flavelle and his opinion was just as I supposed it would be, unfavourable to adding another to the staff on the conditions which you propose. This was also the view of Sir Edmund Walker and the other Governors with regard to a similar proposal that was made you may remember, in the case of Miss MacMurchy. They believe that if a Department requires an additional position it should be created and that the University should be responsible for it, either through gifts from outside given for this direct purpose, or from their own funds.

I was delighted to hear of Murray's success. I hope that he will get a Fellowship at All Souls and that his career will equal your best hopes. Please give my congratulations to Mrs. Wrong. How well Toronto men have done, though I am sorry [illegible] did not get a First. I went to see Grant Brown a few days ago. He is no better I am sorry to say, though the disease may linger.

The Geological Congress is meeting so I have been back in Toronto for ten days. It has been a great success and one has met many interesting people. They seem to be well pleased. I am going again to Nova Scotia for about a fortnight and then return to Toronto to take up work.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

ship. Toronto had 3 out of 32 Firsts in these two schools this year wh. is very good. Cochrane I find very well thought of at Corpus but somehow he was a Second Class in rather a marked way. Nevertheless, I believe he will be a good man on the Staff. He is a really fine young fellow.

I have a fair sized country house and we

STATION: LISS.
TELEGRAMS: WEST LISS.

My dear Falcone

It is pos

that I may come out o
October 1st. and put in this Autumn term at Toronto instead of the Spring term. I assume that this will be agreeable to the University and it will be best for the work, as the autumn term

ore important
e. But I
I will
or I

Oxford results
want to say a word
out Massey's stand. He
got a 2d but the Balliol
people count him a first
class man and he secured
a first on quite half
of his papers. I will ask
A. L. Smith to write you

about Massey's stand as it
ought to be realized at
Toronto that he is intell-
ectually as strong as any
of our men. Oxford was
chary of Firsts this year. There
were 20 in Greats and only
12 in History, a larger school.
My son Murray stood first,
the Examiners tell me, in
the mod. Hist. school, a
good deal ahead of any
one else. He will try in
Novr for an All Souls Fellow-

Station: Liss.
Telegrams: West Liss.

Lyss Place,
West Liss,
Hants.

we all together here - It is very quiet and pleasant - The walks about here are beautiful and there are fine views near Haslemere. Part of the house is 500 years old, an old Convent. It would be pleasant to settle down for the remainder of ones days in a place like this, but I am not quite ready for that job. The Clarendon Press have accepted a book of mine on Canada and I hope to finish it by October 1st.

If you write address to me here. I hope you are having a good holiday.

Yours sincerely
George M. Wrong

sh'd have a real vacation free from care! but you have the penalty of greatness. I have never enjoyed anything more than our quiet life here. We have a very charming house, tennis, bowling, even a pond for bathing on our own place, and exquisite walks over heather-clad moors. Winchester is 2. miles off in one

Station: Liss.
Telegrams: West Liss.

Lyss Place,
West Liss,
Hants.

Aug. 17 1913

My dear Falconer:

I enclose for you to file a letter to Russell and his reply. He is, I think, coming to Toronto, & I think the Governors sh'd leave me discretion to get what service I can from him. We can get useful work out of him I think.

I have decided that, unless something unforeseen occurs, I shall come out for the Xmas term. This will be the best for me as well as for the work.

I hope by that time (that is the time of starting) to have the book I am working on finished. I can then give a free mind to the work at Toronto before starting on something else when I come back.

I c^{d} wish that you

Station: Liss.
Telegrams: West Liss.

Lyss Place,
West Liss,
Hants.

direction; Chichester 20
miles off in another
and we shall, I hope,
make expeditions to
both places. Kenneth
and Mrs. Bell are here
now and we have a
pleasant succession of
visitors. But it is

hard work for us all until the afternoon. Murray is working for the All Souls Exam. in Nov. His old Tutor at Ch. Ch. tells him he'll have to do 3 months hard reading before the beginning of Term and he is doing it. This is what is expected here of undergraduates in the vacation.

I'm sorry the German matter is not settled. I see your difficulties, but I rather fear that they will be increased by delay.

Yours truly

George M. Wrong

STATION: LISS.
TELEGRAMS: WEST LISS.

LYSS PLACE,
WEST LISS,
HANTS.

Aug. 26 1913

My dear Falconer:

Yours of Aug. 14 has come to-day. Before this you will have received my letter enclosing my correspondence with Mr Russell. I am not going to press my view in regard to this case for I know Russell but slightly and have

for say.

Yours sincerely

George M. Wrong

a query as to how he might proceed. I do not know whether I am to understand that you would not approve of Russell's coming as a voluntary worker without official status. That is to say would you object to my getting him to do work privately for the Dept. of History that would not otherwise be done? If you do I think you had better cable the word "object" to Wrong (Emigré London) and I can tell Russell not to come to Toronto. If you do not cable I can, I suppose assume that he may come to Toronto on the conditions laid down in my letter. I shall communicate to Russell now the substance of what

September 12th, 1915.

Professor G. M. Wrong
Lyss Place
West Liss
Hants England

My dear Wrong:

I did not cable you because it seemed to me that the terms of your letter were such that I should not wish to interfere with Russell's coming to Toronto on those conditions. You state that he will come as a voluntary worker, without official status, and that you will get him work to do privately for the Department which would not otherwise be done, also that he is to be here for a year only, and consequently would have no suggestion of a claim for further appointment. I stated this to the Governors yesterday afternoon, and they agreed with me that I ought not to cable you.

Really Russell would be somewhat in the position of a research student, whom the professors might ask to do certain work for them in the way of teaching or investigation.

I mentioned, also, to the Board that you wished to change your leave from the First Term to the Second. On the whole I think it is probably better to have you at the beginning, when you can get matters under way.

I am glad to know that you are getting on so well with your literary work. You did not say what the nature of the book on Canada is, but at present there is a splendid opportunity for good work in almost any phase of our Canadian life.

With kind regards to Mrs Wrong and the family, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President

Station: Liss.
Telegrams: West Liss.

LYSS PLACE,
WEST LISS,
HANTS.

Sept. 9 1913

My dear Falconer:

I have no cable from you about Russell saying "Object". I will wait a day or two longer and if I do not hear from you will write to him that he may come to

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some so as to meet profs. in Canada between now and Xmas. But I am figuring in my own prac-tically a whole year's salaries between now and Xmas. For the ~~futu~~ Dept. is paying on me salaries for all the years for this term so the University is getting

Toronto. He is extremely able and quick and we can get some good work out of him. I think.

I shall arrive a week late but I can't help this. In any case all the boats were full to the end of September; but my chief reason for delay is that I am finishing a book wh. the Clarendon Press is to publish and I can't get it done for two or three weeks still. As I shall not be in England or Canada for next spring I must get the book

STATION: LISS.
TELEGRAMS: WEST LISS.

LYSS PLACE,
WEST LISS,
HANTS.

[illegible]
volume and ~~in my~~
~~[illegible]~~ I do not think
I shall be taking the
other half of my sabbati-
cal year for a long
time.
Taylor is
likely to be taken at
Oxford as a junior

Colonial Student so that he is likely also to get a degree at the end of two years.

I am sharing a stateroom with Lionel Curtis on the voyage out.

Yrs ever

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STATION: LISS.
TELEGRAMS: WEST LISS.

LYSS PLACE,
WEST LISS,
HANTS.

P. Sept. 22 1913

My dear Falconer:

Your interpretation of Russell's ~~opinion~~ position is exactly what I had in mind. I hope he may get into the Faculty House in St. George St.

My book is "The Last Days of New France". It will be a biggish book, published by the Clarendon Press, Oxford.

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book. So here goes for La Belle France.

Yours ever

George M. Wrong

though & if they won't
agree to early publication
I shall go elsewhere.
They have accepted the
idea. The thing has been
half done for years. I
have had three or four months
of hard work on it and
now the end is just
ready. But I have to
hold it till I get back
to Canada to look after

few things at the Archives.

A cousin has asked
me to ~~come~~ go over to France
for a motor run
Amiens, Rheims,
Paris, Chartres &c. To
some thinking my look
five or six days here in
that way. I can just
do it for I shall have
done by Monday all
that I can on the

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November 3rd, 1913

Professor Wrong,

University of Toronto.

My dear Professor Wrong:

I am very sorry that in all probability I shall be unable to be at the meeting of the Editorial Board of the Champlain Society to-morrow afternoon. Sir Rickman Godlee is to be at the Academy of Medicine and I have promised to be there to meet him. It is possible that I might come late, although I think it doubtful. I will try to be present the next time you want me.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Ottawa December 19th 1913.

President Falconer,
University of Toronto,
Toronto.

My dear Falconer,

I was in such a rush in Toronto that I had not time to secure any further help for the scholarships than that which I reported to you. As it stands, Riddell will give either $200 or $250; Massey will raise $200; I myself will give $50 and I now undertake to be responsible for the raising of the whole sum of $500 should Riddell's contribution fall to $200 instead of $250. I know the Governors will want some specific guarantee and this I give. I shall be back in Toronto long before the first payment is due and in any case we are only $50 short and not even that if Riddell rises to the $250 level. I write thus specifically because I am anxious that no technical difficulty shall be in the way of announcing the Scholarships.

Let me wish you and Mrs Falconer a Happy Christmas. Think of me tossing on the Atlantic on that day!

Sincerely Yours

George M. Wrong

467, JARVIS STREET,
TORONTO.

December 17th, 1913

My dear Falconer;

I ~~have~~ now put in writing what I have said to you verbally. I have asked Justice Riddell to give $250.00 a year, for five years, to found History scholarships, the first payment to be made in 1915. He has assented in general terms to my proposal but I must leave it to you to put it in business form. I hereby undertake myself to contribute, beginning in 1915, $50.00 a year, for five years, for the same purpose. Mr. C.V.Massey is undertaking to raise $200.00 a year on similar terms and I will ask him to communicate with you. There are one or two other guarantees which I hope to report to you myself. Professor Kylie will be responsible for the details of the announcement to be made in the Calendar.

Yours sincerely

President Falconer.

George M. Wrong